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Docket No. AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER HHI-031USRCE Application No. Filing Date Examiner Art Unit 09/890588-Conf. #6532 November 21, 2001 M. O. Savage 1723 Applicant(s): Wilhelm ARDES FLUID FILTER WITH REMOVABLE CENTRAL COMPONENT WITH ADDITIONAL **RETAINER** TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below. **CLAIMS AS AMENDED** Claims Highest Remaining Number Number Previously **Extra Claims** After **Amendment** Paid Present Rate **Total Claims** 12 20 Independent 5 5 Х Claims Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) Extension for response within second month 450.00 Other fee (please specify): TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT: 450.00 Small Entity x Large Entity No additional fee is required for this amendment. x Please charge Deposit Account No. 12-0080 in the amount of \$ 450.00 A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. A check in the amount of \$ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. x The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. Credit any overpayment. Charge any-additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17. Dated: December 14, 2004 Sean D. Detweiler Attorney Reg. No.: LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP 28 State Street Boston, Massachusetts 02109 (617) 227-7400

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 41992889 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: December 14, 2004

Signature

__(Sean D. Detweiler)

12-16-04

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Dated: December 14, 2004 Signature:

1723 A

Docket No.: HHI-031USRCE (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: M. O. Savage

In re Patent Application of:

Wilhelm Ardes

Application No.: 09/890588

Filed: November 21, 2001

For: FLUID FILTER WITH REMOVABLE CENTRAL COMPONENT WITH

ADDITIONAL RETAINER

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandrià, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Applicant hereby petitions for a two-month extension of term, attached hereto, thereby extending the term for response to and including December 14, 2004.

In response to the Office Action dated July 14, 2004, entry of the below amendments, consideration of the remarks provided, and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.